

# WHALEY BRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

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Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge, High Peak, SK23 7AA

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## **Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 in**

**The Meeting Room, Mechanics Institute, Market Street, Whaley Bridge**

**Present:** Councillors: Thomas (Chair), Gilmour, Glover, Hall, Lomax, McCarthy, Pritchard, Ridgway, Smith, Swift and Taylor.

**In Attendance:** 4 members of the public, PC Simon Lomas, PCSO Amy McKeever and Andrew Fox, Town Clerk.

### **C19/197 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Bowden and HPBC Cllrs Kath and Shannon Kate Thomson.

### **C19/198 Declarations of Members' Interests and Dispensation Applications**

None.

### **C19/199 Community Police**

A report was received from PC Simon Lomas; 6 Violent against the person, 2 Public Disorder Offences, 3 Drug offences, 4 Criminal damage and arson, 10 Theft, 0 Sexual offences and 1 Crime against Society.

### **C19/200 Public Participation**

A member of the public wished to speak regarding their petition about speeding along the A6. They stated that their petition which had 408 signatures was sent in September asking for a speed camera and or road markings in Furness Vale has been thrown out by DCC. He continued to give an update regarding Cllr Bowden and stated that he is now out of hospital and is recovering in Liverpool.

Another member of the public wished to express their concern regarding the Corona Virus and that the Uniting Church in Whaley Bridge was willing to help in any way it could as well as outlying churches and volunteer.

A member of the public gave an update regarding the Community Allotment Project stating they were concerned about whether public gatherings would be banned which would affect their ability to run the plot. They also stated that they had approached churches together regarding the Community Allotment Project.

### **C19/201 Updates from County and Borough Councillors on matters of concern to the Town Council**

A report was received from DCC Cllr Ruth George. She stated that she had held meetings with Whaley Bridge School regarding the Save the School Pool campaign and stated that the figures were very large to save the pool and that she could understand why the school was not continuing running the pool. She did

comment that the way the whole situation was handled could have been much better.

She stated that she was disappointed that the Secretary of State did not call in the planning application on Linglongs Road and she felt that DCC had given advice contrary to the NPPF, she stated she would continue to bring this issue up with HPBC.

She continued to state that she was disappointed that Goyt Valley Care Home was closing and disputed the £2million repair costs stating it would cost closer to £500,000 to do the necessary work. She continued to state she was very worried about the Covid-19 outbreak especially for vulnerable older people and she has asked Cllr Wharmby what she is doing to protect the vulnerable in DCC care homes. She addressed the traffic light outage at New Horwich End stating that a driver hit the power supply and DCC are now waiting on Northwest Electric to install a new power supply. She stated that the road working on Long Hill could be serious and that there may not be any work done this year.

The issue of a chain being placed across unused land behind the White Heart was raised.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would contact Mark Trillo at HPBC to request advice about what can be done regarding the situation with the land behind the White Heart.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr McCarthy would write a formal response to the consultation regarding Goyt Valley Care Home in support of the home.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would write a letter to the Environment Minister copying Robert Langan MP and Ruth George asking for an update regarding the report and that a similar letter is sent to Richard Parry from the CRT.

Cllr George gave a report from Cllr Kath Thomson which state that she was still working to rectify the rat problem on Park Road. She continued to state that Cllr Thomson was talking to DCC regarding a disabled parking space at Station Road in Furness Vale. The report concluded that Cllr Thomson had fixed the flooding issues of George Street and she had asked DCC about a 20 MPH speed limit over Old Road.

Cllr Lomax gave a report reporting that the D2N2 partnership, DCC and HPBC are going to investigate with Business about the provision of a new bridge to the industrial estate after we have left the EU. He continued to state that a £750.00 grant was being made available to Parish and Town Councils for VE Day celebrations. Finally, he commented that the Chief Executive and the Deputy Chief Executive have left their posts with immediate effect.

#### **C19/202 Minutes of previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** The Minutes of the last meetings of Whaley Bridge Town Council held on Thursday 13 February 2020 are a true and correct record of the meeting, the Chair was authorised to sign them.

#### **C19/203 Clerk's Report**

**RESOLVED:** To note the Clerk's report.

**RESOLVED:** To give the Clerk a budget of £80.00 to purchase a new switch for the printer if necessary.

**C19/204 Finance etc**

**RESOLVED:** That the Accounts for Payment listed below are paid.

	<b>Mar-20</b>	<b>Payments</b>	<b>12/03/2020</b>
<b>Cheque Number</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
<b>Whaley Bridge Town Council</b>			
	Salaries	Net salaries	£3,469.89
	HMRC	PAYE	£448.23
	Petty Cash	Office supplies	£19.42
DD	TalkTalk Business	Telephone/Broadband	£32.34
DD	Trusted IT	Backup/365 Lic/Website	£96.72
DD	Altodigital	Photocopier usage	£26.18
	Andrew Fox	Money withdrawn for PC	£65.15
	Martin Thomas	Remainder of Chair's Allowance	£95.05
	Martin Thomas	Reimburse NP WiX subscription	£122.40
	Review Publishing	Newsletter distribution	£134.40
	Alex Swift	Reimburse FB ads for NP	£17.00
	Carol Cade	Reimburse printer ink NP	£64.00
	Amazon Ltd	Leaflet holders x 2	£14.84
	AK Products	Newsletter printing	£208.80
	AK Products	Paper and office stationary	£18.84
	Mechanics Institute	Room hire	£598.17
	Mechanics Institute	Room hire Allotment meeting	£26.00
	Mechanics Institute	New Mills U3A wrongly received	£48.00
	<b>Whaley Bridge Town Council</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,505.43</b>
<b>Mechanics Institute</b>			
	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Wages offcharge - Sweetmore/Lugg	£1,115.80
	Paintmaster 2000	2.5L Gloss paint and brushes	£30.72
	Stanway & Hallow Electrical	Energiser LED Golf Ball Lamp	£12.00
	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Reimburse PC for gloves and towel holders	£4.19
	Shorrock Trichem	Karcher flood buff pads	£31.14
DD	Gazprom	Gas	£335.30
DD	High Peak BC	Non-domestic rates	£55.00
DD	Opus Energy	Electricity	£111.08
DD	United Utilities	Water	£53.24
300048	McColl's	Newspapers	£55.20
	<b>Mechanics Institute</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,803.67</b>
<b>Sports Association</b>			
DD	SAGE	Sage One Accounts	£21.60
647	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Wages offcharge - Sweetmore/Lugg	£489.28
646	Whaley Bridge Football Club	Planning application fee reimburse	£259.00
648	Harrod Sport	Post hooks for nets	£43.38
649	Mechanics Institute	Room hire SA meetings	£26.00
650	Whaley Bridge Town Council	Reimburse PC tractor solenoid	£41.54
DD	HPBC	Non-domestic rates	£160.00
DD	Water Plus	Water	£12.19

	<b>Sports Association</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,052.99</b>
	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,362.09</b>

**RESOLVED:** to note the Financial Reports for February 2020 which had been circulated to all members, and the bank balances at 29<sup>th</sup> February stood at:

<b>Whaley Bridge Town Council</b>	£
CCLA Deposit Fund	88,000.00
Unity Trust - Current Account	33,084.34
Unity Trust - Deposit Account	31,026.74
Petty Cash	1.27
	152,112.35
<b>Mechanics Institute</b>	£
Unity Trust - Current Account	14,175.41
Unity Trust - Deposit Account	28,195.12
	42,370.53
<b>Sports Association</b>	£
Current Account	3,126.12
Deposit Account	67,141.89
Petty Cash	0.00
	70,268.01

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would agenda an item for MI Refurbishment for the next Town Council meeting and would invite Amy Hubble from High Peak Architects to attend. Cllr Hall would chase Mr Cunningham for a response regarding the proposed disabled access.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would give a report to Cllr Thomas, Glover, Gilmour and McCarthy with any updates.

#### **C19/205 Budget 2020/21**

A draft budget was received from the Clerk and comments were provided by Cllrs.

**RESOLVED:** To approve the budget which is attached to the minutes.

#### **C19/206 Whaley Bridge Town Council Reserves**

Received a report from the Clerk regarding the current state of the reserves.

**RESOLVED:** To increase the earmark reserve for the MI refurbishment to £40,000.00.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk is given authority to complete year end and then to report back on the reserves information.

#### **C19/207 Future of Whaley Bridge Primary School Swimming Pool, Community Business plan and possible support**

**RESOLVED:** To consider this item at agenda item 6 after the County and Borough Councillor reports.

**RESOLVED:** The Town Council has noted the report it is regrettable that the pool has to close but understands that the costs are extensive. The Council is worried about a loss of provision regarding swimming and would support the creation of a new pool near any central schools.

- C19/208 Covid-19 outbreak emergency response**
- Received a report from the Clerk.  
**RESOLVED:** To give the Clerk authority to follow Government guidance as necessary including the closure of the office and Town Council buildings if required.
- C19/209 Derbyshire Pension Fund**
- RESOLVED:** The Town Council will continue as an employer in the Derbyshire County Council Pension Fund.
- C19/210 Derbyshire Pension Fund Designation of Eligible Membership to the LGPS**
- RESOLVED:** To designate that the Clerk and Caretaker are eligible for membership in the LGPS scheme.
- C19/211 Mechanics Institute Waste Collection Contract**
- RESOLVED:** To pay the waste collection contract at a cost of £460.57.
- C19/212 David Frith Memorial Sign**
- Received a report from Cllr Thomas.  
**RESOLVED:** The Council support the installation of a memorial sign for David Frith and that Cllr Smith would liaise with the family to decide the best location.
- C19/213 Artwork Brookfield Pond**
- RESOLVED:** To set a budget of £75.00 to fix the loose rail on the gate and a budget of £100.00 to purchase paint.
- C19/214 Whaley 4 Wards shed**
- RESOLVED:** To accept the quote from Mike Whelan of £908.17.
- C19/215 Earth Day 2020**
- RESOLVED:** To consider this item at agenda item 7.  
**RESOLVED:** To remove standing orders to hear an update from Mr Keith Sandow.  
**RESOLVED:** To reinstate standing orders.
- C19/216 Enrolment in NEST Pension**
- RESOLVED:** The Council will enrol in the NEST pension scheme and the scheme would be offered to the administrator.
- C19/217 Shallcross Incline Update**
- Received a report from Cllr Thomas.  
**RESOLVED:** Cllr Ruth George will take up the issue of the incline with Gill Millward and the Clerk will send correspondence so far to Cllr George so she is up to date.

**C19/218 Whaley Bridge Website**

Received a report from the Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk will look into the provision of a new website for Whaleybridgetowncouncil.gov.uk.

**C19/219 Christmas trees around Whaley Bridge**

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would contact New Mills Town Council to see who provides their trees and wait for outstanding quotes before bringing the item back to a future meeting.

**C19/220 Whaley Bridge Football Club Request for Funding**

**RESOLVED:** The Council refuses the request for funding.

**C19/221 Pavilion Extension Steering Group – Progress, Expenditure**

Received a report from Cllr Swift stating that 6 tenders have been sent out and we are hoping for replies before the 24<sup>th</sup> of March.

**C19/222 Whaley Bridge Neighbourhood Plan – Progress, Expenditure**

Received a report from Cllr Pritchard which was circulated to all Cllrs.

**RESOLVED:** To authorise the Clerk with the Chair to pay back the unspent locality grant before the 31<sup>st</sup> of March.

**C19/223 Reports from Committees and representatives on outside bodies**

a) Regeneration Committee

The bus shelters along Market Street is being reconstructed and that the bus shelter at Bridgemont is being pulled down and replaced.

**RESOLVED:** The Council agrees to the replacement shelter at no cost to the Council.

It was suggested that the bus shelter in Furness Vale which has taken significant damage can be replaced.

b) Personnel Committee

**RESOLVED:** That the staff are able to carry over 5 days holiday this year and that the Personnel Committee will meet again to review the holiday policy for all members of staff.

c) Whaley Bridge Canal Group

Cllr Thomas gave a report he went to the last meeting of the canal group, tenders should have been adjudicated and he is told that the work on the roof is going to be starting very soon. He commented he has been asked by Sue Ball if the Council could send a newsletter with the Town Council's next newsletter and to assist with the financial cost of printing.

**RESOLVED:** To set up a reserve of £1000.00 towards the newsletter printing cost.

d) High Peak & Hope Valley Community Rail Partnership

Cllr Pritchard reported that there is another meeting of the partnership tomorrow at New Mills Town Hall. He also commented that since the last meeting the Northern Rail Franchise has been taken away by the Minister and they are still awaiting confirmation what will happen next.

e) Whaley Bridge Allotments Working Group

Nothing to report.

f) Whaley Bridge Sports Association

Nothing to report.

g) Whaley Active

Nothing to report.

h) Mechanics Institute Refurbishment Project

This had been discussed when considering the reserves.

**C19/224 Correspondence**

**RESOLVED:** To note correspondence received from 14 February:

1. Mary Nother – letter seeking support for venture to provide a lasting memorial to David Frith in Whaley Bridge.
2. Post Office – update on closure of PO at 3, Canal Street, WB and apologies for unsuccessful exploration of options for restoring the service. Also notification in line with their Principles of Community Engagement to consider any sustainable new opportunity proposed in the future.
3. Friends of Whaley Bridge Station – request for publication in the WBTC Newsletter of group's need for volunteers.  
**RESOLVED:** The Council would write an article in the next edition of the newsletter.
4. Bollington Town Council – notification of correction of date for Bollington Climate Emergency Working Group meeting – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020.  
**RESOLVED:** Cllrs Pritchard and Smith would attend the next meeting of the Bollington Climate Emergency Working Group.
5. Peak Park Parishes Forum – reminder re PDNPA Public Data Portal.
6. Graham Aldred -Toddbrook Reservoir Update.
7. **DALC/NALC**  
Derbyshire Association of Local Councils Newsletter February 2020  
We're on the move!  
Want to be on DALC's Exec?  
Dealing with fly-tippers and squatters  
Skills – how to be a good interviewer  
Be a litter hero(ine) this Spring!  
And the champion is... BELPER!  
Be quick – Spring Seminar places nearly sold out  
Village Halls – the hubs of Derbyshire's villages  
Latest Training for March 2020  
  
Invitation to Derbyshire Constabulary Town & Parish Councils' Evening on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.00pm Butterley Hall Ripley. Online confirmation of attendance required. Request for information and interest in dealing with DCC regarding imposing speed limits and potentially become involved with an action group.
8. Cllr McCarthy – request for update re. Furness Vale fence and defibrillator.  
Received a report from Cllr McCarthy  
**RESOLVED:** The Clerk would apply for grant funding to install a defibrillator on the Social Club in Furness Vale.

**C19/225 Planning****RESOLVED:** To note the following decisions of High Peak Borough Council:**Committee Decisions – None****Delegated Decisions**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>HPK/2019/0573</b> Variation of condition 2 relating to HPK/2015/0525 87 Merlewood, Chapel Road, Whaley Bridge. Mr Alan Sidebotham <b>FULL</b>	Refused
<b>NMA/2020/0001</b> Non material amendment relating to HPK/2018/0261, Description of development to be amended to "demolition of existing rear outbuilding and replacement with new single storey rear extension to provide new kitchen accommodation" Raise the height of the extension roof by 180mm Minor elevational change to proposed rear (south west) elevation 4, Bank End Cottages, Buxton Road, Furness Vale. Mrs Linda Brady <b>NON MATERIAL AMENDMENTS</b>	Approved

**Peak Park Planning Decisions – None****RESOLVED:** That the Council had the following comments on the new applications:

<b>Application</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>HPK/2020/0025</b> Proposed change of use from cafe on ground floor with residential on first floor, to a single dwelling. 110, Buxton Road, Whaley Bridge. Mr Chris Bennett <b>Full</b>	<b>No Comment</b>
<b>HPK/2020/0079</b> Certificate of Lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension 21, Hockerley New Road, Whaley Bridge. Mr Ian Smith <b>CERTIFICATE OF LAWFULLNESS</b>	<b>No Comment</b>

**C19/226 Exclusion of the Press and Public****RESOLVED:** That the Press and public be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of the following matters on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.



**C19/227**

**Short-Term Loan**

Received a report from Cllr Gilmour.

**RESOLVED:** To offer the Clerk and Caretaker a Short-Term Interest free loan to cover the cost of Pension payments in arrears for a 12 month period.

The meeting closed at 10:23 pm

**Signed as a true and correct record of the meeting**

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date